

Testimony of Clyde G. Byerly
House Bill 496

This proposed legislation is an attempt to correct the problem of illegal use of firearms by penalizing the inanimate object used to perpetrate a crime. It is not the weapon which may have caused the crime, it is the person that committed a crime that should be adjudicated to the fullest extent of the law.

The jurisdiction where the firearms are located should be able to make a decision on the disposition of any firearm confiscated through court proceedings.

In these days of tight budgets, local law enforcement agencies should have the discretion to sell confiscated firearms to fund their operations.

These firearms can be put back into legal commercial channels. Only those persons who possess a Federal Firearms License can bid on and buy these firearms. They in turn are required by law to perform background checks on person who wish to buy them. These firearms will not be transferred to people who should not have them.

Destruction of an inanimate object is a vindictive way of expressing outrage.

It will not solve the social problems that may have lead to the crime.

I urge the Committee to table this proposed legislation.

Signed
Clyde G. Byerly